

LOOK FOR THE GREEN STICKER ON VENDING MACHINES

BY MEGAN CASTLE,
PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER, OEMC

The next time you purchase a soda from a vending machine in a state building, you may not know it, but your soda could be chilled using less energy, due to a plan to save money for state agencies.

Vending machines run continuously to provide cold refreshments, and now there is a device that is able to control that energy use, without altering the temperature or quality of the refreshments. Standing near a vending machine modified by VendingMiser triggers a motion sensor, which powers it up immediately. The motion sensor is part of a energy control device that reduces the overall number of running cycles of the motor, which saves on maintenance, repairs and energy consumption. This simple device makes the vending machines consume less energy without compromising the taste or temperature of the cold beverages.

The VendingMiser installations are a pilot project with the aim to reduce pollution, energy costs and usage for state agencies. The Governor's Office of Energy Management and Conservation (OEMC) and the Pollution Prevention Advisory Board (PPAB), working in



Look for the sticker in the upper left corner of the machine.

cooperation with the Department Human Services Business Enterprise Program for the Blind (BEP), are behind this project. PPAB provided grant funding to purchase the VendingMisers. The project is expected to save approximately \$15,600 per year for taxpayers.

In an earlier test conducted by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment's Sustainability Program, nine VendingMisers were installed on cold beverage machines. These machines used 41% less electricity, which is an approximate annual savings of \$78 per machine. Most important to the vending machine managers the machines experienced no reduction in sales, thus the VendingMiser produces a win/win situation for both the machine vendors and the building in which they are housed.

The OEMC has received enthusiastic feedback about the VendingMisers and are fielding more requests for the devices. In the meanwhile, the devices are available on a commercial basis and to the public. For more information on this project, visit OEMC's website, www.state.co.us/oemc or contact Susan Castellon at 303-866-2259.

HARVARD UNIVERSITY INVITES STATE TO APPLY \$100,000 GRANT

The Ash Institute for Democratic Governance and Innovation at the John F. Kennedy School of Government, in partnership with the Council for Excellence in Government, administers the *Innovations in American Government Award* and is looking for applicants.

The award is heralded as the premier public-sector award in the nation and is given annually to programs that serve as examples of creative and effective government at its best. All units of government within the United States —federal, state, local, tribal, and territorial— are eligible to apply. Each of the winners of the 2006 Innovations Award will receive a \$100,000 grant to support replication and dissemination activities.

Applications and additional information are available at: www.innovationsaward.harvard.edu. Applications are due September 15, 2005.

Stateside

MattHolman



"Overall, your job performance was good this year. But you need to work on having a little more positive attitude."